# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF PUERTO RICO

In re:

THE FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT AND MANAGEMENT BOARD FOR PUERTO RICO,

as representative of

THE COMMONWEALTH OF PUERTO RICO, et al.

Debtors.<sup>1</sup>

In re:

THE FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT AND MANAGEMENT BOARD FOR PUERTO RICO,

as representative of

PUERTO RICO ELECTRIC POWER AUTHORITY.

Debtor.

OFFICIAL COMMITTEE OF UNSECURED CREDITORS OF ALL TITLE III DEBTORS (OTHER THAN COFINA),

Movants,

v.

THE FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT AND MANAGEMENT BOARD FOR PUERTO RICO,

PROMESA Title III

Case No. 17-BK-3283-LTS (Jointly Administered)

Case No. 17-BK-4780-LTS

This Court Filing Relates Only to PREPA and Shall Only Be Filed in the Lead Case (Case No. 17-BK-3283-LTS) and PREPA's Title III Case (Case No. 17-BK-4780-LTS)

Re: ECF No. 7484

The Debtors in these Title III Cases, along with each Debtor's respective Title III case number and the last four (4) digits of each Debtor's federal tax identification number, as applicable, are the (i) Commonwealth of Puerto Rico (the "Commonwealth") (Bankruptcy Case No. 17 BK 3283-LTS) (Last Four Digits of Federal Tax ID: 3481); (ii) Puerto Rico Sales Tax Financing Corporation ("COFINA") (Bankruptcy Case No. 17 BK 3284-LTS) (Last Four Digits of Federal Tax ID: 8474); (iii) Puerto Rico Highways and Transportation Authority ("HTA") (Bankruptcy Case No. 17 BK 3567-LTS) (Last Four Digits of Federal Tax ID: 3808); (iv) Employees Retirement System of the Government of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico ("ERS") (Bankruptcy Case No. 17 BK 3566-LTS) (Last Four Digits of Federal Tax ID: 9686); and (v) Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority ("PREPA") (Bankruptcy Case No. 17 BK 4780-LTS) (Last Four Digits of Federal Tax ID: 3747). (Title III case numbers are listed as Bankruptcy Case numbers due to software limitations).

as representative of

PUERTO RICO ELECTRIC POWER AUTHORITY,

Respondent.

THE PUERTO RICO FISCAL AGENCY AND FINANCIAL ADVISORY
AUTHORITY'S RESPONSE TO URGENT MOTION OF OFFICIAL COMMITTEE OF
UNSECURED CREDITORS FOR ORDER, PURSUANT TO BANKRUPTCY CODE
SECTION 926(a), AUTHORIZING COMMITTEE TO PURSUE CERTAIN
AVOIDANCE ACTIONS ON BEHALF OF PUERTO RICO ELECTRIC POWER
AUTHORITY

To the Honorable United States District Judge Laura Taylor Swain:

The Puerto Rico Fiscal Agency and Financial Advisory Authority ("<u>AAFAF</u>"), by and through its undersigned counsel, respectfully submits this response (the "<u>Response</u>") to the *Urgent Motion of Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors for Order, Pursuant to Bankruptcy Code Section 926(a), Authorizing Committee to Pursue Certain Avoidance Actions on Behalf of Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority* [Case No. 17-BK-3283-LTS, ECF No. 7484] ("<u>Motion</u>"),<sup>2</sup> filed by the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors of all Title III Debtors (other than COFINA) (the "<u>UCC</u>"). In further support of this Response, AAFAF respectfully avers as follows:

#### **RESPONSE**

1. For the reasons explained in greater detail in the oppositions to the Motion (the "Oppositions") submitted by the Financial Oversight and Management Board for Puerto Rico (the "Oversight Board") and Assured Guaranty Corp. and Assured Guaranty Municipal Corp., the UCC has failed to meet its burden under Bankruptcy Code section 926(a) of showing that the Oversight Board has actually refused to bring the Lien Challenge. To the contrary, as it notes in

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Capitalized terms not defined herein shall have the meanings given them in the Motion and the Oppositions.

its Opposition, the Oversight Board is prepared to either bring the Lien Challenge or enter into appropriate tolling agreements to preserve the Lien Challenge in accordance with the terms of the RSA. The Motion therefore fails at the threshold.

- 2. Moreover, the UCC's alleged "Aurelius/UTIER problem" is illusory. As the Oversight Board explains, the Oversight Board is prepared to enter into a stipulation with AAFAF appointing AAFAF as co-trustee with the Oversight Board with respect to the Lien Challenge. AAFAF agrees to enter into this stipulation and accept its role as co-trustee with the Oversight Board in the Lien Challenge. There is no justifiable basis for the UCC's refusal to recognize that this stipulation resolves the Motion.
- 3. Accordingly, and for the reasons set forth in the Oppositions, the Motion should be denied.

## THE PUERTO RICO FISCAL AGENCY AND ADVISORY AUTHORITY, as Fiscal Agent for PREPA

By: <u>Luis C. Marini-Biaggi</u> Luis C. Marini-Biaggi USDC No. 222301 Carolina Velaz-Rivero USDC No. 300913

### MARINI PIETRANTONI MUÑIZ LLC

250 Ponce de León Ave.

Suite 900

San Juan, Puerto Rico 00918

Phone: (787) 705-2171 Fax: (787) 936-7494

Email: <a href="mailto:lmarini@mpmlawpr.com">lmarini@mpmlawpr.com</a>
<a href="mailto:cvelaz@mpmlawpr.com">cvelaz@mpmlawpr.com</a>

#### /s/ Peter Friedman

John J. Rapisardi (*admitted pro hac vice*) Nancy N. Mitchell (*admitted pro hac vice*)

### O'MELVENY & MYERS LLP

7 Times Square

New York, New York 10036

Phone: (212) 326-2000 Fax: (212) 326-2061

Email: <u>jrapisardi@omm.com</u> nmitchell@omm.com

-and-

Peter Friedman 1625 Eye Street, NW Washington, DC 20006 Phone: (202) 383-5300 Fax: (202) 383-5414

Email: pfriedman@omm.com